

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, Maryland 20852

9116 '99 MAY 13 P1:49

Re: Docket No. 98N-1038, Irradiation in the Production, Processing, and Handling of Food

To whom it may concern,

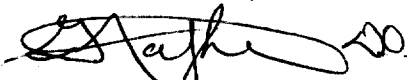
I am a practicing physician and have some concerns about the attempt to allow unmarked irradiated food to be sold on a widespread basis. This is disconcerting. It seems that often when there is an effort to ignore the possibility that there could be health consequences to an action despite the best intentions of the determining parties there are people who suffer. There are many examples as you know. There are several that the FDA is having to deal with presently.

I would strongly support the recommendation by the Center for Science in the Public Interest regarding the labeling of irradiated foods. They follow as:

- 1.) Any irradiated food should be labeled with a written statement and accompanied by the international symbol of irradiation. If unpacked the food should have a poster of the same in the near vicinity.
- 2.) Irradiation labels should be truthful and not misleading.
- 3.) The requirement for irradiation disclosure (both label and radura) should not expire any time in the future.
- 4.) I urge you to extend the current comment period past its end date of May 18th to allow more citizens and health care providers to respond to this issue.

This is very important. Please consider these requests as there is good science that shows that we need to be cautious about the irradiation of food.

Yours to better health,

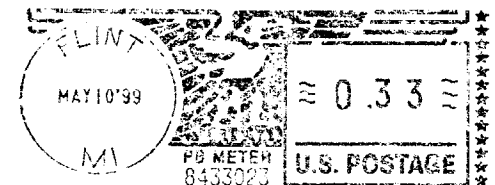


Gerald Natzke DO FAAOA FAAEM

98N-1038

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Gerald Natzke DO
1044 Gilbert St.
Flint, Mi. 48532



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